

Raiyats' Privileges Rules may be extended to this magani also.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be done.

SUBJECT No. 314.

Stocking of timber in the forest depot at Shimoga.

Mr. P. Venkappiah, Shimoga municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Large quantities of useless timber are being stocked in the depot at Shimoga. Some logs have been lying there undisposed of for years together and it is feared that even the cost of extraction and carting of the logs to Shimoga may not be realized. It is suggested that in future such logs may be sold in the forests rather than be allowed to remain in their present condition in the local depot.

Reply of Government.—Noted. The Conservator will be consulted.

SUBJECT No. 315.

Sale of bamboos from district forests of the Kumsi sub-taluk to be prohibited.

Messrs. Nadig Guru Rao and Ramachendrappa Dube, Kumsi sub-taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The forests in the Kumsi sub-taluk are getting denuded of all bamboos, large and small, as both the varieties have seeded. The sale of bamboos from the district forests by the Forest department to merchants may be put a stop to as bamboos are required by the raiyats for agricultural operations.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into.

SUBJECT No. 316.

Reservation of Rangaiyangiri and Malhal forests to be cancelled.

Mr. Ubrani Appajaiya, Channagiri taluk.

Summary of discussion.—At the time of the reservation of the Kukwada-Ubrani State forest, the forests of Rangaiyangiri and Malhal were left for the use of the raiyats of several villages of the Channagiri and Tarikere taluks for procuring wood for their agricultural requirements and for grazing their cattle. These forests were reserved three years ago. As the reservation has caused much inconvenience to the agriculturists it is prayed that they may be reconverted into district forests as before.

Reply of Government.—Report from the Conservator has been called for, and on its receipt the question will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 317.

(a) Reduction of seigniorage rates on fuel in the Gangavanasara State forest.

(b) Reduction of grazing fees in the Gangavanasara State forest.

Messrs. Revanasiddiah and Halappa, Honnali taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(a) Sugar cane cultivation is carried on on a large scale in the Chinikatte and Nyamti maganis of the Honnali taluk which contain extensive forests. As this crop is exposed to the ravages of wild beasts, the raiyats are obliged to keep fires constantly during nights to ward off the wild beasts. The watching of the crops in the rainy season is a very difficult task for the raiyats. They find time only in September and October to collect a year's supply of firewood. As the cutting of fuel in *coupes* framed by the Forest department according to the departmental rules is a difficult business, it is prayed that the old seigniorage rate of 2 annas per cart-load of fuel may be revived in the Gangavanasara State forest.

(b) Owing to extensive reservation of forest lands, the available extent of grazing lands has become very small. The cattle of some villages in the open country have at present no shelter in the rainy season and several of them are lost by exposure to wind and rain. The superabundance of dry grass in State forests in summer is one of the causes for forest fires resulting in the loss of valuable species of forest growth. The old rate of grazing fees of 1 anna may be revived as it is sure to bring enhanced revenue under this head.

Reply of Government.—Orders have been passed reducing the rate to 2 annas per cart-load of fuel (*vide* Government Order No. R. 1728-9—Ft. 188-12-4, dated 21st August 1913).

If any particular instances of hardship are brought to notice, they will be given due consideration.

SUBJECT No. 318.

A full-time Vice-President for the Shimoga municipality.

(1) Mr. G. Chandappa, Shimoga municipality.

(2) Mr. P. Venkappayya, Shimoga municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The sanitary condition of Shimoga town is anything but satisfactory. Vacant sites full of rank vegetation and pools of stagnant water abound in the town, and the refuse of the town is allowed to collect in such places. The streets in some places are very miry and malodorous with cattle droppings. The storm water is not properly drained off, and this adds to the unhealthiness of the town. Plague and cholera carry away many victims every year. It seems therefore necessary to have a full-time Vice-President to look after the conservancy and drainage of the town. The Treasury Assistant Commissioner who is the *Ex-officio* Vice-President scarcely finds time in the midst of his Treasury and Magisterial duties and the work of the Deputy Commissioner's office to devote proper attention to the requirements of the town. It is therefore prayed that a full-time Vice-President may be appointed for this town as in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore.

(2) A full-time Vice-President with magisterial powers may be appointed for the town of Shimoga. Half of his salary may be met from Municipal Funds and the other half from State Funds.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 319.

Improvement of the Shimoga town.

(1) Mr. C. Subba Rao, Shimoga District Board.

(2) Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga municipality.

(3) Messrs. P. Venkappayya, Shimoga municipality and K. Shankarnarayana Rao, Nagar Sabha.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The town needs improvement as regards water-supply, drainage, etc., and it is prayed that early action may be taken in these matters.

(2) The scheme for the drainage of the town was said to be under investigation last year. It appears that the project is ready and that funds are also available. Information is requested as to when the work will be